

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Shrewton Church of England Primary School

Address	Tanners Lane, Shrewton, Wiltshire, SP3 4JT		
Date of inspection	12 July 2019	Status of school	Academy inspected as VC. Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust (DSAT)
Diocese	Salisbury	URN	144277

Overall Judgement	How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?	Grade	Good
Additional Judgements	The impact of collective worship	Grade	Good

School context

Shrewton is a primary school with 99 pupils on roll. The majority of pupils are of White British heritage. Very few pupils speak English as an additional language. The proportion of pupils who are considered to be disadvantaged is above national averages. The proportion of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is in line with national averages. Since the previous denominational inspection, the school has joined the Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust (DSAT) and there is a new executive head, head of school and chair of governors in post. Shrewton has some pupils from military families.

The school's Christian vision

Powered by love; We Believe, Achieve, Grow
The inspiration for this has its origins in 1 Corinthians 13.

Key findings

- An energetic and enthusiastic head of school enables the whole community to work together within a nurturing Christian environment, allowing all to flourish. This is underpinned by a transformative vision for the school on its onward journey to school improvement.
- The Shrewton Way is imperative to school life which all those associated with the school are expected to uphold and model. This is based on values which ensure every decision is made with love so the whole community can believe, achieve and grow.
- Inclusion and pastoral care are strengths of this school. High expectations for all pupils and the needs of vulnerable pupils are tailored effectively to ensure all thrive.
- The church/school partnership is strong, benefitting pupils and adults. The church team is an extension of the school.
- Pupils believe they are agents of change and can achieve within their lifetime.

Areas for development

- Extend the religious education (RE) curriculum to develop deeper experiences for all pupils and adults.
- Enable pupils and staff to encounter diverse faiths and beliefs more frequently, within the school or by visiting their places of worship, to nurture spiritual and cultural development.
- Enrich pupils' awareness of Christianity as a worldwide faith, including deepening their knowledge of St Mary, to whom their parish church is dedicated, and other holy festivals.

How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

Inspection findings

At Shrewton much has been achieved within a short space of time during this last year. This is because since the previous inspection, the school has joined DSAT. There has been increased support and training from the diocesan team, benefitting all. There has been a real focus on the values, with love as the overarching value. Moreover, the energy and enthusiasm of the head of school is enabling the whole community to work together, within a nurturing Christian environment. This is underpinned by a transformative Christian vision for the school on its onward journey to Church school improvement. Strikingly, the vision vessel chosen by this school community is the image of a rocket. This encapsulates the vision of being powered by love, so all can believe, achieve and grow and so flourish. Its inspiration comes from St Paul's teaching about love in 1 Corinthians. The whole community readily articulates what this means, and can express the real difference which the school's values and way of life make. The Shrewton Way is integral to school life, with simple rules all can live by. It ensures strategic decisions are made with love so the whole community can indeed believe, achieve and grow. Pupils explain their school's rocket narrative well by saying, 'The rocket's thrust is powered by love, and we can all go further if we love.' They identify the tip of the rocket as, 'the teachers and staff and everybody guiding and leading us to succeed'.

Inclusion is instrumental to The Shrewton Way and is demonstrated through the school's values. Love, friendship, forgiveness, kindness, perseverance, respect and responsibility all play their part. Here no-one is left behind in a culture where success is not just 'all about writing'. Pastoral care alongside high expectations are not just concerned with academic results. Debate and reflection as part of the arts and music curriculum are important too. Pupils are supported in school by adults whom they can trust. Staff 'treasure the small steps of progress pupils make so they can believe, achieve and grow in their own ways'. This is a proactive team, wanting pupils to succeed in all areas of the curriculum, removing barriers to support them. Staff harness enthusiasm and belief and are creative about solving any problems pupils might have, with 'never-ending tailored support' so all thrive. Vulnerable pupils feel integrated back into class after spending some quiet nurture time in 'The Nest' with specialist support staff. This helps to meet their social and emotional needs. Shrewton has always enjoyed a long established connection with military families in the area. It means sometimes pupils move mid-year, but all are welcomed and supported. The commitment to inclusion means there is a new trend of improving results, with all groups of pupils making progress, including any vulnerable pupils.

Clear policies and practice are in place, including a shared understanding of spirituality. Governors are committed to monitoring, especially through the ethos committee, on a regular basis. This includes the monitoring of spirituality in science lessons. With an open door policy, parents too feel valued and see their children's actions at home mirroring The Shrewton Way. Pupils themselves are aware of other's feelings, thoughts and beliefs and how privileged their community is. They are aware of what is happening in other parts of the world and are passionate in their desire to be agents of change. This stems from their belief that they can achieve and make a difference in their lifetime. They see that wanting a fairer world is part of loving the world and are, for example, committed to recycling and using eco bricks. Pupils live out The Shrewton Way through many aspects of school life, including visiting the local elderly residents.

All are treated with dignity and respect, which is embedded in The Shrewton Way. With a mental health policy in place, staff and pupil wellbeing is of great importance, and any bereavement needs are well supported. Pupils have a voice through the school council. Creative curriculum days help celebrate differences. Forgiveness and friendship is genuine. Strong local partnerships also include Salisbury Cathedral, where the school takes part in the annual Christingle service. Meaningful links with St Mary's Church remain important for pupils and parents, long after family baptisms have taken place.

Pupils' awareness of Christianity as a worldwide faith is developing. Their knowledge of St Mary, to whom their parish church is dedicated, is growing but is currently under developed. Their understanding about some of the key festivals in the church year, such as Ascension-tide and Pentecost, is currently limited. Church services enable everyone to come together for worship. Pupils are actively engaged in worship, some by being members of the collective worship crew. They help plan, lead and evaluate worship weekly, alongside the local church

community. The school's vision and values are integral to worship and reflect the local community, such as Armed Forces day. Pupils are firm in their belief for one another, which helps them improve in their work.

Pupils enjoy RE, with staff commenting that their work on the big Bible story in Christianity has enabled them to write narratives in their English work. Pupils use learning walls to capture their learning, which includes their work on being advocates of change as well. Staff say they have learned much in RE too, in using the new curriculum. Extending the RE curriculum in order to develop deeper experiences for pupils and adults is currently limited. RE is currently led by the head of school, helping RE to maintain an important profile as a core subject. Assessment and tracking is in place, including peer and self-assessment, enabling pupils to make progress, including vulnerable pupils. They feel comfortable and assured before moving on to the next stage of learning. Year 6 enjoy philosophical debate, which spurs an interest in other points of view. Pupils make the link to their values, such as forgiveness, as a way of living your life. Enabling staff and pupils to encounter more diverse faiths and beliefs more frequently is currently limited.

Maybe the last word should rest with the pupils. Two members of the collective worship crew had this to offer, following worship on perseverance, one of the school's core values. They endorse the importance of 'keeping going no matter what and no matter how hard the task is'. In short, persevering 'through hard tasks and to do what we think is the right thing', is believing, which is part of The Shrewton Way.

Executive headteacher/Head of school	Oliver Martindale/Emily Mullord
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